Direction to STC to intervene to prop-up Rubber Prices

1442. SHRI SHIV CHARAN SINGH:
SHRI PARAG CHALIHA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have directed the STC to intervene in the market to prop-up rubber prices; and

(b) if so, the need and methodology contemplated therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULI RAMAIAH): (a) and (b) The STC in collaboration with the Kerala State Cooperative Rubber Marketing Federation has been making purchases of natural rubber as part of their commercial operations. In such commercial opearations, the methodology is decided by the Corporation only.

Export Inspection Council

1443. SHRI SURINDER KUMAR SINGLA:
DR. SHRIKANT RAM-CHANDRA JICHKAR:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the activities of the Export Inspection Council;

(b) what substantial work has been done by the Council in the recent past;

(c) whether the quality of export goods has improved because of the efforts of the Council; and if so, in what manner; and

(d) what steps will be taken to make the Council function more effectively?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULI RAMAIH): (a) to (d) The main activities of the Export Inspection Council (EIC) are to advise the Central Government regarding measures for the enforcement of quality control and inspection in relation to commodities intended for export and to arrange pre-shipment inspection of notified commodities for export.

The main activities of the EIC in the recent past relate to the coverage of the commodities under the aegis of the Export (Quality Control and Inspection) Act 1963, review of quality standards for exports; simplification and streamlining of compulsory pre-shipment procedures; provision of extension services through the Export Inspection Agencies (EIAs) to the manufacturers and exporters for making them quality conscious while installing quality control drills, and upgrading the quality of the produce intended for exports; providing consultancy services for quality management systems such as ISO 9000 series and also on calibration of measuring equipment through the EIAs; and monitoring the quality inspection work being carried out by the EIAs and recognised private inspection agencies / fumigation agencies. As a result of these efforts there has been a steady improvement in the quality of goods exported from India. A continuous process of review; rationalisation in deployment of manpower; provision of in-service training to employees, continuous monitoring of approved processing units; and extension of technical expertise available in the EIAs to manufacturers and exporters for enabling them to upgrade their quality in conformity with international standards would be undertaken to make the Council function more effectively.

Benefits of Indo-Myanmar Trade Treaty

1444. SHRI W. ANGOU SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the present position of the Indo-Myanmar trade treaty after it has been started to be implemented in the commercial position of the two countires;

(b) whether it is a fact that the benefits of treaty have gone to the Myanmar people and it has greatly affected trade

and business centre at the Indian territory specially at Moreh area of Majipur State;

(c) whether it is a fact that all trucks carrying goods from India have been laid down at the Myanmar territory and not at the Moreh on the Indian side; and

(d) if so, what steps have been taken up to boost benefits for Indian people?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULI RAMAIAH): (a) the volume of border trade between India and Myanmar through Moreh-Tamu sector, since its operationalisation from April, 1995 up to March, 1997 has been Rs. 61.17 crores. The Govt. of India have taken various steps to facilitate border trade via Moreh in Manipur including banking, customs, immigration and other trading arrangements. The border trade via the second point, viz. Champai in Mizoram corresponding to Rih in Myanmar is likely to be operationalised as soon as the infrastructural facilities and other arrangements are completed.

(b) As trade across the border is mostly done through barter system, the exports from India are required to be matched with corresponding value of imports from Myanmar within a period of six months of exports. It has been reported that there is some imbalance in barter trade at present due to paucity of goods on the Myanmar side for export to India.

(c) and (d) As there is no warehouse facility at present in Moreh on the Indian side, trucks carrying export items from India, are allowed to move to Tamu on the Myanmar side where temporary warehousing facility is reportedly available as per mutual understanding. Similarly, Myanmar goods are also allowed up to Moreh LCS for unloading reloading to Indian trucks, after customs checking. The Govt. of Manipur is endeavouring to provide warehouse facility at Moreh.

बागवानी उत्पादों के विश्व व्यापार में भारत का हिस्सा

1445. **श्री अजीत जोगी:**
श्री शमशेर सिंह सुरजेवाला:

क्या **वाणिज्य** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या बागवानी उत्पादों के विश्व व्यापार में भारत का कितना हिस्सा है;

(ख) पिछले तीन वर्षों में प्रत्येक वर्ष के दौरान बागवानी उत्पादों की कुल कितनी मात्रा का निर्यात किया गया तथा उससे कुल कितनी विदेशी मुद्रा अर्जित की गई;

(ग) क्या सरकार ने बागवानी उत्पादों के निर्यात को बढ़ावा देने के लिए कोई नई योजना या कार्य योजना तैयार की है;

(घ) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ङ) क्या निजी क्षेत्र ने इस क्षेत्र में निवेश करने की अपनी इच्छा व्यक्त की है;

(च) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है;

(छ) क्या सरकार को बागवानी के विकास के लिए कोई विदेशी सहायता प्राप्त हुई है; और

(ज) यदि हां, तो इस प्रयोजनार्थ निश्चित की गई योजनाओं का ब्यौरा क्या है।

वाणिज्य मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री बोल्ला बुल्ली रामैया): (क) वर्ष 1994 के दौरान (संयुक्त राज्य सांख्यिकी के अनुसार) विश्व व्यापार में सब्जियों एवं फलों के निर्यात में भारत का हिस्सा 1.7% के लगभग रहा है। भारतीय पुष्पोत्पाद उद्योग नवजात उद्योग होने के कारण वर्तमान में विश्व व्यापार में इसका निर्यात हिस्सा कम है।